

ABSTRACT

A method for operating a fuel cell, which is capable of recovering the performance of the fuel cell when the performance of the fuel cell is degraded. The fuel cell includes a membrane electrode assembly having an electrolyte film, an anode, and a cathode. The anode and the cathode sandwich the electrolyte film and carry a catalyst metal. An oxidizing agent is fed to the cathode and fuel is fed to the anode to generate power. After a predetermined period of time has passed, two sides of the membrane electrode assembly are inverted to carry out a changing operation of changing the anode before inverted to a cathode, and changing the cathode before inverted to an anode. After the changing operation, an oxidizing agent is fed to the cathode after changed and fuel is fed to the anode after changed, thereby starting a power generation again.